

# THE MONITOR

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## CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS! How the heart thrills with joy at the mere mention of this almost magic word! Certainly this is true of all the dwellers within Christendom. All mankind, high and low, rich and poor, young and old, are more or less under the spell of this sacred season. All feel its influence, even tho' there may be some who do not understand its significance or acknowledge its obligations. Whence comes the joy of Christmastide? Why does it strike such a responsive chord in every normal human breast? To what great truth does it bear witness? What fact or facts, which grip the souls of men and women, does it attest? For there is something potent in the spell of Christmastide which can only be accounted for upon the ground of its answer to some longing within the universal human heart. And such a longing there is. That longing, that desire—felt through ages all along—is for union, companionship, fellowship with God, nearness to God. "Oh, that I might find God, and know Him and be found of Him!" expresses the attitude of the normal human soul. And Christmas and the fact for which it stands and to which it bears witness is the answer to this desire. Theologians call the fact to which Christmas bears witness the incarnation. They mean by this what the Prophet sums up in the euphonious word "Emmanuel," God with us. In some wondrous way God has united Himself to and taken up His abode with man. Without laying aside His Deity He has taken upon Himself our humanity. God the Son, out of love to mankind, took man's nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary of her substance, thus adding a pure human nature to His Divine Nature,

binding and uniting, as we see, for all eternity, in His One Divine Person, these two whole and perfect natures, the human and the divine. Human nature was hereby taken into closest union with God and that for all eternity. The human hunger for union with God finds its answer in the incarnation, "Emmanuel, God with us," explains the joy of Christmastide. And since the motive spring of God's wondrous Gift of His Only-Begotten Son was Love for Men, this explains the feeling of kindness and good will which marks this season.

May the fullness of Christmas joy be yours is our wish for all our readers.

## GIVING UP

ONLY when men give up and cease trying to accomplish that which is laudable and good are they defeated. In times of difficulty we are all prone to become too easily discouraged and to give up. Keep up your courage and keep plugging away always doing your best. Never give up until you absolutely have to and then simply take breath and start again.

## ANOTHER'S VIEWPOINT

THE older we grow and we are trying to grow old gracefully, always keeping our heart young, the more we are convinced that most men and women are really anxious to accomplish something worth while for their community, their race, humanity and themselves; but that we fail in knowing how to do it. We differ as to methods. We do not see eye to eye, but as our observation goes we believe that most men and women are really sincere in their desire to do some good in the world. We wonder if it would not be a good idea to at

least try to get the other fellow's viewpoint before arriving at too dogmatic conclusions. Radicals and conservatives there always have been and will be, and when they really try usually a common ground upon which both can stand is found. There is always something to learn from another's viewpoint.

## THE PACKERS' STRIKE

WE sincerely hope the strike of the packing house employees will soon be settled amicably. Up to the present there has been little of serious violence. Self-restraint will win sympathy for the strikers' cause whereas acts of violence will alienate public sentiment. Many of our own people are affected by the strike and we counsel them to prudence.

## Events and Persons

Mrs. C. Pauline Lynch has been taken to the University hospital, where it may be necessary for her to undergo a serious operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Frazier N. Toombs of Los Angeles, Calif., are recent arrivals in our city. They are stopping at 2609 Grant Street.

Mrs. Anna Singleton expects to leave soon for California. Her son Millard F. 3rd, will accompany her.

FOR SALE—Corner grocery business \$600.00. Reasonable terms. Rent \$30.00. 1445 N. 19th St.

Mr. Josiah Brown entertained at a luncheon and theater party Tuesday, Dec. 20, in honor of the ninth birthday of her daughter Sarah.

The S. S. S. met at the residence of Miss Gladys Brown Saturday evening, Dec. 17. The meeting was spent in planning for the holidays.

The Ocaswin Campfire entertained at a reunion dancing party Wednesday P. M., Dec. 21, at the home of the Misses Ruth and Florence Jones.

James W. Headley, who has been in the employ of the Sample-Hart Motor Co. for several years has been quite ill at his residence, 28th and Binney for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Headley are rejoicing over the birth of a fine daughter.

Louis LaCour is expected home Saturday from Ada, Ohio, where he is attending the University.

The Phi Delta's gave a delightful party Wednesday night at Hillcrest, the home of the Misses Jones, who were the hostesses.

## C. O. Soon Shortens Sentence.

Private Bings was incorrigible. His disposition had always been too merry and carefree to suit the commanding officer, but when he entered the post command whistling, it was altogether too much. "Binks," said the captain sternly, "you seem to like to whistle. I'll give you your chance. Stand there in the corner and whistle for one hour." Private Binks swung into the strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner." "Your sentence is mitigated to five minutes," said the captain, rising courteously to attention.—American Legion Weekly.

## ORIGIN OF CHRISTMAS

FIRST CELEBRATION WAS HELD IN THE YEAR 98.

Forty Years Later Before It Was Officially Adopted as Christian Festival.

CHRISTMAS was first celebrated in the year 98, observes a writer, but it was 40 years later before it was officially adopted as a Christian festival; nor was it until about the fifth century that the day of its celebration became permanently fixed on December 25. Up to that time it had been irregularly observed at various times of the year—in December, in April and in May, but most frequently in January.

In Rome the Saturnalia, or feast of Saturn, fell at about the same time as our Christmas, and it marked the greatest festival of the Roman year. The city abandoned itself to gaiety. Universal mirth was the order of the day; friends feasted friends, and foes were reconciled. All social distinctions were laid aside. Work was stopped, and no war was ever entered upon at that time.

One by one other legends and customs have been disproved and overturned, yet none has dared attack the legends and the customs sacred to Christmastide. It remains with us, and will always remain, as Christmas marks the winter solstice. The days begin to lengthen, and the sun no longer journeys away from the earth, but enters upon its return. It is a promise of renewed light and warmth, of the approach of summer, and men hailed these signs with every expression of gladness.

When Christianity spread abroad, men adapted the old customs of their ancestors to the new order of things.

The word Yuletide, used to give a picturesque, oldtime flavor to the Christmas idea, comes from Yule, an old name for Christmas. The term springs from an English word used to designate the two months of December and January, one of which was called the "former Yule," the other the "after Yule." There is a legend which relates that it was the custom years ago for every Saxon household to burn the Yule log on Christmas eve.

## THE 1800 CHRISTMAS

FIRST YULETIDE DINNER SERVED IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

Haunch of Venison Graced the Table Presided Over by the Wife of John Adams.

THE first dinner at Christmas given in the White House was in 1800 when John Adams was President and Abigail, his wife, sat at the head of the table as hostess. It was not a comfortable meal, although a splendid haunch of venison, the gift of Mrs. Washington, graced the board, and the country people of what Mrs. Adams called "the City in the Wilderness" had generously contributed gifts of all sorts to make the feast as toothsome as one could well wish.

The reception after dinner took place in the oval room, which is now the library, and was at that time barely habitable, though furnished, as Mrs. Adams wrote, in "warm crimson." The view from the windows on that first Christmas day would have disclosed what John Cotton Smith describes as "a deep morass, covered with alder bushes." The sidewalks were laid with chips from the stoves with which the capitol was heated. A wooden bridge spanned Black Tiber Creek and low houses, also built of wood were the residences of the congressmen.

The only brick dwellings were those that stood in Pennsylvania avenue, between Twenty-first and Twenty-second streets, six in number and built with money derived from the sale of lottery tickets. These were the surroundings of the first Christmas day of the Chief Executive of the young nation "whose policy in government has been more Christ-like than any other nation on the face of the earth which keeps the holiday."



EXTRAVAGANT AFFECTION.

Perce—Maud expects a handsome present from me this year and has hinted she thinks it might be in the shape of an engagement ring when I can afford only a plain one.

Ferd—Serves you right for indulging in a diamond ring passion on a ten-dollar salary.

## Stories of Great Scouts

By Elmo Scott Watson

### LEWIS WETZEL, "DEATH WIND OF THE DELAWARES"

Many of the great scouts did not become Indian fighters until they were men, but Lewis Wetzel started early. He killed his first Indian when he was only thirteen years old. Wetzel was born in Virginia in 1752. His father moved to the present site of Wheeling, W. Va., and was killed there by the Indians before the eyes of his sons. Lewis swore eternal enmity against all redskins.

One day while he and his brother were romping in the woods they were attacked by Indians. Lewis killed one of the savages and the next instant was hit by a bullet which carried away a piece of his breast bone. Both boys were taken captive. That night while the Indians slept, Wetzel worked loose the things which bound him and then unfastened his brother.

After the boys had fled for about a mile they discovered that their moccasins were torn to shreds. Leaving his brother in hiding, Lewis returned to the Indian camp and, undetected by the sleeping savages, robbed them of two pairs of moccasins as well as a gun and some powder and lead.

The next morning the Indians were hot on their trail and soon were close upon them. As the Indians approached, the boys stepped out of the trail into a clump of bushes, allowing their pursuers to speed past, and then they followed. Soon they heard the Indians coming back and again they stepped into the bushes and hid. The Wetzel boys played this dangerous game of hide-and-seek several times before they finally eluded the savages and returned in safety to their home.

When Lewis Wetzel grew older he crossed over into Ohio and soon became one of the best-known scouts in the country.

Wetzel was called "The Death Wind" by the Delaware warriors who hated particularly. More than once a Delaware warrior trembled with fear as he heard a shrill, moaning cry echoing through the forest, for it usually was followed soon afterward by a shot from the scout's deadly weapon which ended the redskin's life.

In his later years Wetzel lost the respect of many people because he began killing all Indians he met, whether hostile or friendly, and several times he was imprisoned for shooting members of peaceable tribes. In his last days he became a lonely, bitter old man until death came to him in 1808.

## HE STICKS TO HIS "BUDDIE"

Former Service Man Takes Up Collection and Saves Ex-Comrade From Jail Term.

Bayonne, N. J.—That "buddies" of the battlefield stick together after they have become comrades of civil life was illustrated to a courtroom filled with interested spectators here recently.

Michael Zwanick of this city, overseas service man, charged with a minor offense, was about to go to jail for 30 days in default of payment of a \$25 fine. Joseph Rush, in the courtroom crowd, recognized the young prisoner as a man with whom he had served in the campaign in France. Taking his hat, Rush started a collection in court.

Then he went out and made a house-to-house canvass which netted him enough for the fine and costs. Recorder Cain accepted the payment and released the soldier, who declared it was his first and last time before the bar.

Both men are members of the American Legion here and they served together in Company H, Two Hundred and Tenth Infantry.

## Boy Lassoes Truck; Dragged to Death

New York.—Playing cowboy, John Buller, ten, threw his lariat around a post on the edge of a heavy truck that was proceeding along pier No. 37. Holding to the rope, he was dragged several feet, his head striking the pavement, before the driver could stop his truck. The lad was dead when an ambulance arrived.



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